

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION EXCLUDING FINANCIAL
SECRETARIAT, ACCOUNT OFFICE AND
LEGISLATIVE BODIES.

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Sir, I beg to move for a grant not exceeding Rs. 5,164 for the Public Service Commissioner's Office. The demand consists of a number of items. I shall explain the necessity for these items one by one. There is a provision of Rs. 2,000 in the budget of the current year under examination charges. The honourable members know that an examination has already been held. The expenditure has exceeded the amount provided by Rs. 100. The expenditure incurred so far is about Rs. 2,100 and the Public Service Commissioner says that it may be necessary to hold some more examinations in the course of this year. There is no provision for meeting the examination charges if they are to be held. The examination that was held recently was for the recruitment of English-knowing clerks. A sufficient number of candidates sat for this examination and the required number of eligibles has been secured. I understand that the examinations for the recruitment of Malayalam-knowing clerks and typists may have to be held again as there were not a sufficient number of candidates for those examinations. There is also a proposal to institute a Civil Service examination for recruitment to the higher division of service, i.e., for posts carrying a pay of Rs. 150 and above. If this examination is to be held this year, provision has to be made for the necessary examination charges. On the whole an additional allotment of Rs. 2,000 is proposed under this head for the current year.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know whether there is an advisory body or board to help the Public Service Commissioner?

PRESIDENT: I think it might be useful if the honourable member is allowed to finish his speech. It may be that some of the questions to be put by the honourable members may themselves be answered in the course of his remarks.

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): A sum of Rs. 500 is required for the purchase and repair of furniture. This is a necessary item. There is a provision of Rs. 500 in the budget of the current year. The honourable members will remember that towards the end of last year an additional staff was sanctioned. Now also it is proposed to sanction some additional hands and it is necessary to provide funds for the purchase of furniture for this additional staff. Therefore a sum of Rs. 500 is provided for this purpose. I may also point out that this amount which will be spent by the Public Service Commissioner will be credited to the P. W. D. Workshops, from where the articles will be purchased.

A sum of Rs. 150 is necessary for the pay of menials. The Commissioner was till recently holding his office in the Government bungalow where he is living. There is an annexe attached to his bungalow where his office was housed. As this building was found to

[Rao Bahadur Rajyasavanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai.]

be insufficient, the office has now been shifted to rented buildings near the Union Club. There is one watcher on Rs. 6 at present but the office is held in two buildings. With one watcher it is not possible to watch both the buildings and it is therefore proposed to appoint an additional watcher on Rs. 9 per mensem and a sweeper on Rs. 4 per mensem. For these two items an additional sum of Rs. 150 is required for the current year.

The next item is for the maintenance of the electric installation. When the office was held in the Commissioner's bungalow there were enough fans and lights. But in the rented buildings there are not sufficient fans and lights and some additional expenditure has to be incurred for providing them. For this purpose a sum of Rs. 500 has to be sanctioned.

Lastly, a sum of Rs. 1,314 has to be provided for the entertainment of additional staff for a period of three months. The honourable members will remember that even last year when the Commissioner asked for a large increase in his staff the Government examined the proposal and allowed only a portion of the staff asked for. Even then he said that the staff was not sufficient to cope with the increasing work in his office. Since only a limited additional staff was sanctioned and since examinations had to be held early this year the staff sanctioned was not able to cope with the ordinary work in his office. There were about 15,000 applications for various appointments. All these have to be sorted out and examined, those containing defects have to be eliminated and the rest posted in the register. This requires laborious work which will take up the whole time of a number of clerks. Since the whole staff asked for by the Commissioner last year was not sanctioned, the ordinary staff available had to attend to the examination work that was held in Chingam last and the work of sorting out, examining and arranging the applications fell into arrears. The Commissioner therefore applied for a few additional hands to clear off the arrears. The Government were convinced of the necessity and accordingly sanctioned an additional staff consisting of 1 clerk on Rs. 75-100, 2 clerks on Rs. 40-70, 9 clerks on Rs. 25-40, a typist on Rs. 25, an attender on Rs. 15 and 2 peons on Rs. 9-11 for a period of three months to work off the arrears. It is to pay this staff that a sum of Rs. 1,314 has been included in the supplementary demand.

RAO SAHIB MAHAKAVI S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Nominated*): Has the amount incurred on the last item been expended?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The sanction for appointing this staff was given on 25-11-36. Some of them might have already been engaged. Whether they have been paid or not and whether the payment has to be regularised by sanctioning this additional grant, has to be verified. These are the various items that constitute this demand for the office of the Public Service Commissioner. The honourable members will appreciate the necessity for all these items which I have tried to explain as fully as possible.

RAO SAHIB MAHAKAVI S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Nominated*): In connection with the examination charges, may I know whether the Government do not derive any income by way of application fees?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes. The exact amount is not known. But I understand that up to the end of 1111 a sum of about Rs. 19,000 was received as application fees.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know who conducts the examination?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The examiners appointed by the Public Service Commissioner in consultation with the Director of Public Instruction.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Who prepares the question papers?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The examiners?

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know whether there is any separate body of examiners for the purpose.

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): No, Sir. They are appointed according to necessity.

PRESIDENT: Before adjourning for lunch I wish to say that though I regard the business on which the House is going to proceed and the discussion on the Public Accounts Committee also as of very great importance, the House will not think I will be guilty, if I will not be able to preside over the sittings in this House to-day or the next day to the extent that I would wish. The Lothian Committee is commencing its work on Sunday and my absence from the sittings of the House, I hope, will not be understood by the honourable members as due to want of deference on my part.

The House adjourned at 1-2 P. M. and met again at 2 P. M. with the Deputy President in the Chair.

MR. POTTAYIL S. KRISHNA PANICKAR (*Shertala ID*): I am sorry I have to oppose this supplementary demand in connection with the Public Service Commissioner's office. My complaint is in regard to that particular item of the demand under establishment. During the time of the budget the staff in the Public Service Commissioner's office including the Manager was enhanced by six hands, originally as a temporary measure, and an additional staff of seven hands by way of clerks and typists was allowed to continue. At the same time including the mochee and the attender he has got 16 peons. It is over and above this staff that the Public Service Commissioner is now coming forward with a demand for an additional establishment of as many as 12 clerks, 1 typist, 1 attender and 2 peons. From the nature of

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the work that the Public Service Commissioner is called upon to carry in his office and considering the number of hands already sanctioned for that office this additional demand for 13 hands by way of clerks and typists is very exorbitant and unnecessary. When the Finance Committee met, the Public Service Commissioner also was present, and when interviewed, from the explanation that he gave we have been able to gather that these clerks are to be appointed only for a period of three months temporarily and they are intended to supplement the existing staff in the department. He expressly told us that he had no idea of creating a separate section in his office. I directly put a question to him as to the necessity of this different grades of clerks.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: You are directly putting a question to me.

MR. POTTAYIL S. KRISHNA PANICKAR (*Shertala II*) No, Sir. I directly put him a question and the answer that he gave was that the staff is only intended to be supplemented. He could not give me a convincing answer as to the necessity of these different grades of clerks. Considering the nature of the work that he is called upon to do in his office it is not necessary that there should be a clerk on Rs. 75—100, and 2 on Rs. 40—70. Even according to the original allotment of staff there is one Manager, a clerk on Rs. 75—100, and as though as a temporary measure there are 2 clerks on Rs. 40—70 and 5 clerks on Rs. 25—40. It was stated by the Chief Secretary that these additional clerks are necessary in order to tabulate the applications that the Public Service Commissioner has received and to keep a correct record of them. I cannot understand why all these hands are necessary to do this work. I, on my part, cannot allow this huge staff even though as a temporary measure. We have been told that these clerks have already been appointed. We are still in the dark as to how they were appointed, where from they were recruited, who made the recruitments and such other things. I understand that there is a lot of complaint even with regard to the appointments made by the Commissioner. Even the Commissioner has violated the rules that have been.....

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: The policy of appointments to the staff of the Public Service Commissioner, the caste-war representation and such other things are not relevant under this motion.

MR. POTTAYIL S. KRISHNA PANICKAR (*Shertala II*): I have stated that I do not make any complaint against the appointment on the basis of caste. But there are certain other fundamental principles to be borne in mind in the matter of recruitment and those principles seem to have been violated by the Commissioner.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: In the honourable member's speech there were words to that effect.

MR. POTTAYIL S. KRISHNA PANICKAR (*Shertala II*): So in my view the additional hands now asked for are unnecessary and need not be sanctioned.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): I oppose the demand. The time is come for this House to closely and carefully examine as well as scrutinise the works of the Public Service Commissioner. It is stated that one examination was held some time back and one or two more examinations are to be held under the auspice of the Public Service Commissioner for the matter of recruitment and that about Rs. 2,000 must be given for the sake of the examination already held. We do not know who set the question papers, whether there is any Board of Examiners for the purpose, who conducted these examinations and in what manner and method they were held. This House as well as the public are quite in the dark so far as these examinations are concerned.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: You can make it clear that the House is not convinced with the necessity for the grant. But you cannot discuss about the way in which the examination was conducted by the Public Service Commissioner.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): It has been stated by the Chief Secretary on behalf of the Government that this grant covers Rs. 2,000 under examination charges. What I submit is that we do not know the nature of the examination conducted, who set the question papers and such other things. The question papers were far from satisfactory. There was no sort of examination worth the name. It was conducted in a haphazard manner and in an irresponsible method. Such examinations are held at the instance of the Public Service Commissioner in the name of recruitment. We do not know why and how such examinations are held. We do not see any justification why this demand must be supported by this House. It is stated that some additional staff must be appointed in his office. The appointment of the Public Service Commissioner himself was as a result of constant agitation on the part of the public as well as this House due to various irregularities on the part of the Heads of Departments, who had the power for recruitment. In the matter of recruitment proper communal justice as well as personal justice should be resorted to. But what is the method and the manner in which that Commissioner makes recruitment in his own office? A stenographer getting Rs. 25 is promoted to Rs. 75 to 100 scale. Sometimes a peon will be promoted as a clerk. There are certain rules laid down by the Government with regard to recruitment to the Public Service. The Commissioner himself has violated the very same rules. We have got various instances.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: All these things are not covered by the motion. Here the simple issue is whether the demand should be granted for certain stated specific purposes which have been explained by the Chief Secretary. I hope the honourable member would confine to that.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): The honourable member has been pointing out the case of a typist on Rs. 25 being promoted to Rs. 75—100 scale and so on. I wish to know from the member whether these are only figures of speech or actual facts.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangal*): Actual facts, Sir. In answer to an interpellation given on the floor of this House about this serious injustice

MR. JAMES SIMPSON (*Darbar Physician*): Is the member aware that the Public Service Commissioner has nothing to do whatsoever with promotions in any department?

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangal*): It is not a promotion. It was an appointment that he made in his own office. The stenographer who was getting Rs 25 was promoted, rather appointed to Rs. 75—100 scale in his office, when he had to appoint a fresh hand on Rs. 75—100.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I wish the honourable member will distinctly understand—the House will forgive me if I repeat it but I think it is necessary—that the simple issue is whether the work got or to be got from an additional staff is necessary or not. I did not hear Mr. S. J. Nair saying that there is not enough work. All these considerations are therefore immaterial. They need not be discussed.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangal*): The Chief Secretary has stated that a sum of Rs. 5,164 is required towards the salary of the additional staff. We do not know why an additional staff must be maintained in his office. When proper justice is not done to the existing staff there is no necessity for engaging an additional staff, so that he can make appointments as he pleases.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I shall be obliged to call Mr. S. J. Nair to order in an effective manner.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): Is it the opinion of the member that if this demand is sanctioned the Public Service Commissioner will misuse it?

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangal*): It will be “കുത്തിന്റെ കയ്യിൽ കൊടുത്ത പുരവലയം” like “—giving a good flower garland in the hands of a monkey—to quote a Malayalam proverb. So I request the members of this House that not even a single pie out of this demand that has been brought to this House for additional staff to the Public Service Commissioner's office shall be granted.

MR. K. M. KURIAKOSE (*Muvattupuzha II*): I rise to support the demand. On a previous occasion also there was a hot discussion on this subject. Sir, the appointment of the Public Service Commissioner is a new incident in the history of our State. The appointment itself was made under very extraordinary and pressing circumstances and the success of the work of the Public Service Commissioner depends upon the expedition with which he could carry it out. When a similar supplementary demand was brought forward last time it was stated by the Chief Secretary that perhaps this amount might not be sufficient and the House would have to vote upon another supplementary demand and it is as a result of that this demand is now brought forward. There was no idea as to the volume of work that he will have to turn out. Now we are told that he has to dispose of 15,000 applications. We can imagine what a troublesome work it will be unless he is provided with

proper staff. Therefore the only question for consideration is whether the present staff is sufficient to deal with the situation as explained by the Chief Secretary. Delay in the work and want of proper attention in disposing the applications will result in great injustice and inconvenience.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know whether the applications are disposed of by the staff of the Public Service Commissioner or by the Commissioner himself?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: That question need not be answered.

MR. K. M. KURIAKOSE (*Muvattupuzha II*): The Public Service Commissioner will be able to do proper work only with the help of a competent staff. Sir, by giving the grant we are not incurring any loss, because we have an additional item of gain to the exchequer by way of application fees. Considering all these facts I hope this House will not take objection to vote for the grant.

MR. V. RAMAKRISHNA PANICKAR (*Kartikapalli II*): Sir, I rise to support the motion for the demand. I had no idea of speaking on this motion until I heard speeches opposing it. Last year also, Sir, there was an opposition from this part of the House probably on the ground that sufficient work had not been turned out by the Commissioner. Of course reports tell us that good work is being done by the department. Several sets of rules were framed by the Public Service Commissioner and he has prepared and issued several circulars. Information has to be obtained from several heads of departments as to appointments under them and as to the powers of each appointing authority. We all know an examination was conducted, at which several thousands were examined. The result was published. In connection with that a huge amount of work had to be attended to by the staff. Of course, being a new department, Government sanction has to be obtained in regard to the business that has to be transacted in the office. The Public Service Commissioner has to give replies to Government references also. Various types of forms had to be prepared by him and he had to make arrangements for their sale. Sir, all these are items of works to be attended to by the clerical staff. Then, there is the estimate of vacancies that may occur in all departments, so that appointments may be recommended by the Commissioner. There are about 20 to 25 appointments in the lower division. Applications pour in daily for appointments. These applications have to be scrutinised by responsible clerks and then they have to be registered in the appropriate registers. A good deal of correspondence has to be attended to in connection with these applications. Even copies have to be kept in proper files by the clerks where the original documents are to be returned. Sir, there is plenty of work in the office and therefore more hands are absolutely necessary. Then there are the selection lists which have also to be prepared. About 200 and odd appointments are to be made in the intermediate division. The selection lists will have to be made according to the rules of rotation. That has also to be done by responsible clerks. The House will be

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able to know the magnitude of work that has to be transacted in the office when they know that about 200 different registers have to be kept in the office. Sir, I totally agree with the Chief Secretary in saying that the items of expenditure detailed in the demand are very necessary and they must be granted. With these observations, I support the motion.

MR. N. E. VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla I*): Sir, I oppose the motion for the demand. I oppose it on the ground that there are no sufficient materials for me to decide the question on its merit. The only estimate supplied to the House, Sir, is a bare statement in a paper that a sum of Rs. 5,164 is necessary for the Public Service Commissioner's Office. Sir, by an estimate I understand that all the necessary details should be supplied so as to enable us to come to a correct decision. The only information on this matter was the speech made by the leader of the House.

MR. K. M. KURIAKOSE (*Muvattupuzha II*): Were no other items clearly explained?

MR. N. E. VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla I*): After hearing a speech from the leader of the House I closely followed the speech made by Mr. Panickar.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): May I know, Sir, who is the leader of the House?

MR. N. E. VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla I*): The Chief Secretary to Government. Sir, Mr. Panickar is a representative of this House.....

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: The honourable member should understand that there is more than one Panickar in the House.

MR. N. E. VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla I*): Sir, I refer to Mr. Pottayil S. Krishna Panickar. He is a member of the Finance Committee which went into this question. He was elected as a member of the Financial Committee by this House. He tells us now that he was not convinced by the arguments supplied by the Public Service Commissioner. When a representative of this House who had the opportunity to discuss the matter with the officer for whom the grant is being made, was not convinced, I do not know how we can be convinced by the barren speech made by the official member. Sir, now I am left in the dark and do not know to decide one way or the other. But taking the views of our representative in the Finance Committee as reasonable, I am of opinion that the demand is not quite necessary. With these words I oppose the motion.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): Sir, I rise to oppose the motion. I am of opinion that the Government have no business to sanction any amount in anticipation of sanction from this House. Sir, I ask whether any extraordinary situation has arisen in the case of this department, for the Government to sanction anything without the sanction of this House. Another thing is that this House was not informed of the details of the work in the office for

which this demand is made. Now 13 clerks including a typist, 13 peons and 2 daffadars are already working in the office of the Public Service Commissioner. The Chief Secretary has stated that about 15,000 applications were received in the office and to cope with this large number of applications additional hands were needed. And it is stated on behalf of Government that these temporary hands were employed only for a specific purpose for a certain limited period. But, I have strong doubts that when they are once employed some reason will be brought forward by Government to retain them. Then, regarding the item of amount that has been sought to be sanctioned by this House i. e., the expenditure incurred in connection with the Public Service Examination. The details for this item of expenditure are not given. We do not know whether the examination was conducted on communal basis and whether the same principle was adopted in the choice of examiners. All these relevant details, however, were not given to the House.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : That will depend upon Government proceedings on the subject. Government direct that such and such persons should be chosen as examiners according to the principle of communal representation. The Public Service Commissioner can do only what the rules approved by Government dictate. Unless those rules are corrected what Mr. Menon states is not correct.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (Shertala I): Sir, I am presenting only the relevant facts that may go to help to form a decision by this House. One item of the demand happens to be for the expenditures incurred for conducting an examination. Where are the relevant details to show that the expenditure is a justifiable one?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : I rule that the communal representation in the appointment of examiners has nothing to do with this question.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (Shertala I): Sir, apart from communal representation there are other relevant details which the House has a right to know. The House should know about the number of subjects on which the pupils were examined, the efficiency of the board of examiners, the particular methods of conducting the examinations and the number of centres fixed throughout the State. Sir, these are facts which should be presented to the House so that the public may have confidence in the system adopted by the Commissioner and these relevant facts are also useful for the House to arrive at a right decision. The Chief Secretary has stated that in anticipation of the sanction of this House Government sanctioned on 25-9-1936 a new staff for the Public Service Commissioner. But we do not know whether there was any real congestion of work during that particular period, and if so, whether that pressure still continues to justify a further increase of hands.

Sir, the Chief Secretary to Government has stated in the course of his speech that anticipating the sanction of this House, sanction was accorded on 25-9-36 for these temporary hands to be appointed in the Public Service Commissioner's Office. On whose discretion are these

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additional hands to be entertained? How far and how long? These are facts which are not answered. Regarding the appointment of the staff in the Public Service Commissioner's Office there is a lot of heart burning and misunderstanding. Rightly or wrongly the principles of fair play that are being followed and adopted in other departments of the State are not strictly adhered to. It is up to the Government bench to dispel these fears and to place all relevant facts. Under these circumstances, Sir, I request this House to vote against the demand.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): I also wish to make a few remarks on this demand. The main portion of the demand is necessitated on account of the examination already conducted and on account of examinations that are to be conducted. It is said that the additional staff is now needed because the existing staff has been asked to do the work relating to the last examination. Rs. 2,000 is asked for examination charges, that is for examinations that are to be conducted in future. With regard to the examination that has been already held, Sir, according to me satisfactory work has not been turned out by the staff of the Public Service Commissioner. If satisfactory work has not been turned out by the staff, I do not think much time would have been taken up by them for that kind of work, so that there was no necessity to postpone their normal work. The Chief Secretary has stated that about 15,000 applications have been received in the Office of the Public Service Commissioner. That only means that a sort of anxiety has been created in 15,000 breasts after sending up the applications with the necessary fees. After sending up the application the applicants are entitled to know as to what has become of their applications. The candidates who have appeared for the examination are entitled to know the result of the examinations. The numbers of the candidates who have passed the examinations have been recently published in the Government Gazette. Their numbers and community to which they belong were published in the Government Gazette. With regard to that, I have no complaint. With regard to those who have not passed, are they not entitled to know as to the subjects in which they have failed?

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): Sir, the Public Service Commissioner held a selective test and may I know whether there is anything like a subject in which any candidate could fail?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): There are a large number of subjects in which the candidates are examined. I cannot classify them now.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): Sir, may I know whether it is reasonable to publish all the details regarding 18,000 pupils who appeared for the examination?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Nobody said that 18,000 pupils had appeared. Only 15,000 pupils sent in their applications and all those applications were not from those who wanted to appear for examinations.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*): May I know whether it was stated that sufficient number of pupils were not forthcoming with regard to the vernacular portion?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): With regard to these candidates from whom the examination fees were levied, a duty was cast upon the Public Service Commissioner to publish the result of all the candidates.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Is it Mr. Asan's view that the Public Service Commissioner is bound to inform the candidates of the subjects in which they failed without the candidates asking for it?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Yes, that is my decision. He must publish it in the Government Gazette. If it is not possible he must inform the candidates individually. I do not think that there can be any difficulty to intimate the candidates concerned the result of their examination. That is usually done. I am not asking the Public Service Commissioner to do anything impossible. All that he has done is to publish the number of the candidates who have already appeared. I think that procedure was quite possible.

With regard to the examiners, I do not want the Government or the Public Service Commissioner to disclose the names of the examiners before the examinations are conducted, or before the papers are valued because they must have some rest. I say this not as a reflection upon those who are appearing for the examination. Anyhow it is better and safer not to disclose the names of the examiners before the results are announced.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: We are concerned with the quantity of the work and not with the general policy of the Government.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): A point was raised that with regard to the conduct of the examinations that there would not be sufficient confidence in such examinations because so many details were being withheld. If these examinations are to generate any confidence.....

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: We are not concerned with that.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): I may point out one fact. If they are not prepared to give us sufficient details to satisfy the public that these examinations are properly conducted, we have to throw out this demand. So, what I beg to submit is that I do not think that there is any necessity to appoint any additional hands for doing arrears of work, with regard to examinations that have already been held. I may also mention this, that if Government have already allowed the Public Service Commissioner to make the appointment, I protest against that act as well. There is absolutely no reason why extraordinary steps should have been taken. If that step has already been taken, the Government need not have resorted to the procedure of coming to this House with a supplementary demand. There is

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another provision which enables the Government to sanction expenditure which has to be incurred in emergent cases. But this is not an emergent case. This is a case which could wait till the sanction of this House is obtained and if any obligation has been cast upon the Government by sanctioning the appointment before getting the sanction of this House, I cannot approve of such a course. With these words I resume my seat.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*): As has been stated here already, I too like to get some more information regarding this demand. As for the examination, if I understand the Chief Secretary aright, I should think there can be no justification for entertaining more clerks. One examination has already been held. This is the main examination for the Public Service Commissioner to hold. That is for the clerkships on the lowest grade of English-knowing clerks and the results have been published. I do not quite agree with my friend Mr. Asan in thinking that the numbers of all the candidates should be published and the subjects in which they failed should also be mentioned. It is a competitive examination and I only think that the numbers of the candidates who have succeeded need be given. Nobody is interested to know the subjects in which a candidate has failed. He is only interested to know whether he is included in the pass lists. I do not think that the pages of the Gazette should be wasted by publishing all these fifteen thousand names. Anyhow the examination has been held and about 300 to 500 vacancies are anticipated and the requisite number published.

RAO SAHIB MAHAKAVI S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Nominated*): Is it not necessary to publish the communities of candidates also?

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*): Seeing that the whole thing proceeds on a communal basis one may be interested in knowing the community to which the candidates belong. Personally I like to know how the results stand, apart from the artificial standards. I do not think any interest will be served by publishing the names. With regard to the examination in which the Malayalam-knowing clerks were required I am surprised to hear that a sufficient number of applications have not been received. After all, we are not entertaining very many Malayalam-knowing clerks in other departments than the Registration. How the number falls short of the anticipated number of vacancies, I fail to see. The Government have made this elaborate machinery. Even though fifteen thousand applications are received no applications from the Malayalam-knowing candidates are received. When the vacancies in favour of English-knowing clerks are 300, the vacancies with regard to Malayalam-knowing clerks are only 30 or 40. So a small examination is what is necessary. What further examination is to be held? As for the civil service examination, I do not think the number there, can go up to 1000. It may be somewhere about 100 or 200. It must

be a very small thing. So the examination conducted on their behalf cannot give much work to the Commissioner's Office. If these clerks were attending to the work of the examination, now, since the examination work is over, the clerks can carry on the routine work. Apart from these examinations, what volume of work can possibly be in this office? The Chief Secretary has completely failed in making out a case for appointing more clerks. I hear that these clerks have already been entertained and if the Government have done so they have made a serious mistake. They will do well to disband these clerks.

In regard to furniture, if new clerks are not to be sanctioned, new furniture also need not be sanctioned.

Then there is the question of about Rs. 150 for menials. That is a very small matter.

There is also an item of Rs. 500 for electric installation. The office is now being held in a private house. If so, what is the arrangement under which Rs. 400 of public money is to be spent on a private building? Whether it will be refunded by the owner at the termination of the lease or whether it would be adjusted towards the rent, all that has not been made clear to us.

On the whole, Sir, I do not think a case has been made out for the demand being granted.

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA *DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (Chief Secretary to Government)*: The discussion, so far as I could see, has been mainly on two items, namely, additional staff and examination charges.

As regards the additional staff, I thought I had made out a case. I am sorry to find that some honourable members on the other side think that I did not. Sir, the point that I urged was that, on account of the examination held in Chingam 1112, the normal work of the staff of the Public Service Commissioner's office was held up and fell into arrears. The arrears have to be cleared, and the earlier it is done the better, so that there may not be further accumulation of arrears. I said that there were about 15,000 applications. They were not all for appointments in the intermediate or the higher divisions of service. A large majority of them were for appointments in the lower division, such as peons and menials and such other appointments on a pay of less than Rs. 20 a month. The House will realise that, in regard to these appointments, there is no examination to be held; only the applications have got to be scrutinised and arranged according to community, acting service, &c. According to the Recruitment Rules, a communal rotation has to be followed in recruitment to the lower division and in the case of the applicants who had acted, that fact also has to be taken note of. Thus there is a very large volume of work to be done in dealing with such applications.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI *(Trivandrum—Rural)*: In the case of applicants for these posts, seeing that their number is very large, is there any possibility of intimating them early that there is no chance of their being entertained within a reasonable time, and that they need not wait?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): That can be done only some time hence. It involves a lot of preliminary work.

MR. P. C. KURIYAN (*Kottayam I*): If there is to be no examination for recruitment to the lowest grade...

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I do not hear a word of what the honourable member says.

MR. P. C. KURIYAN (*Kottayam I*): If there is to be no examination for recruitment to the lowest grade, what is the principle that will be followed in the recruitment to that grade?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I am sorry I have no time to explain in detail the rules on the subject. I would simply request the honourable member to read the rules which were published in the Gazette.

Sir, about 15,000 applications have got to be sorted, scrutinised and arranged. On account of the holding of the examination, the staff of the office could not find time to attend to this work, with the result that it has fallen into arrears. Therefore, the additional staff now asked for is absolutely necessary; and it is going to be engaged only for three months, just to clear the arrears.

Now let us suppose that, as suggested by some honourable members, this additional staff is not sanctioned. What is going to be the result? All these 15,000 applications will remain unexamined, and the applicants will be denied the chance of entering Government service. Unless these applications are scrutinised and arranged, it will not be possible to recruit any of the applicants. All the 15,000 unfortunate candidates will be denied the privilege of getting into service.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): What is the usual work of the normal staff, Sir?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): But for the fact that on account of the examination the normal work had fallen into arrears, it would have been attended to by the existing staff. The honourable member knows that if arrears accumulate in Courts, they have to be cleared by the appointment of temporary Judges and Munsiffs.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): But there is this difference fresh cases are being filed every day, whereas in the case of the office of the Public Service Commissioner, it stops with the 15,000 applications that have been received already. I do not think fresh applications are pouring in.

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Here also, applications are still coming in. Anyhow, the present arrears have to be cleared.

Sir, after all, this small additional staff is required only for a period of three months. Some honourable members have stated that the period has not been mentioned. I thought I made it very clear that the additional staff was required for a period of three months only.

I may add, Sir—I do not want to hide facts—that Government have issued orders that the Public Service Commissioner may appoint these additional hands according to necessity. It may be that he does not want all the twelve men immediately.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): May I know whether the appointment of clerks and menials in the office of the Public Service Commissioner are also subject to the Public Service Rules?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Certainly.

MR. N. E. VARUGHESE (*Tiruvalla I*): What is the necessity for appointing different grades of clerks?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): If the honourable member will have patience, I will come to that point. I am not being allowed to continue.

Mr. Pottayil Krishna Panickar, a member of the Finance Committee, told us that he examined the Public Service Commissioner at the meeting of the committee but was not satisfied that a case had been made out for this demand. I thought, Sir, that he too was satisfied. Anyhow, the majority of the members of the Finance Committee were satisfied with the answers given by the Public Service Commissioner, and, that is why this demand has come up to this House.

Sir, in regard to the difference in the grades of clerks to be recruited temporarily, I have to point out that it is necessary to have different grades, because it is not the same kind of work that all these twelve hands are going to do. For every 5 or 6 clerks on Rs. 25-40, a higher grade clerk is required to examine, scrutinise and supervise their work. It is for this purpose that a few hands in higher grades are provided. For nine clerks on Rs. 25-40, it is proposed to appoint only two on Rs. 40-70 and one on Rs. 75-100.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): May I know whether, in sanctioning this temporary staff, the Government have directed the Public Service Commissioner to recruit such hands from any particular office of the Government?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government suggested to the Commissioner that it would be advisable to select a few hands with Secretariat experience; but Government did not make it obligatory on the part of the Commissioner to do so. It was left to his discretion to recruit fresh hands or choose men from any department.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): May I know whether some of the appointments made by the Public Service Commissioner have been objected to by the Account Officer?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I have no information.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shestala I*): May I know whether the Public Service Commissioner has already appointed three of these clerks?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I think so.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkeil*) : Has he given double acting promotions to some of the hands in his office ?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : I do not think so. Sir, I know there is some misunderstanding about some of the appointments made by the Public Service Commissioner. Mr. S. J. Nair also referred to some appointments made by the Commissioner. As Dr. Simpson made it clear by a question, the Public Service Commissioner is concerned with and is responsible for only initial recruitment. No kind of promotion comes within his province. The Heads of Departments have got certain powers of appointment and the appointments and promotions which are beyond the powers of departmental heads are always sanctioned by the Government. In the particular case referred to by Mr. S. J. Nair, it was the Government that sanctioned the promotion, and they did so because they were convinced of the justice of the case.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : May I ask whether in the case alluded to by the Chief Secretary, the case in which a stenographer on Rs. 25 or so was promoted as a clerk on Rs. 75-100, the Government considered that it was not irregular ?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Government would not have sanctioned it if they had considered it irregular.

In regard to initial recruitment, I can say definitely and boldly that the Public Service Commissioner strictly follows the Recruitment Rules. Some honourable members seem to be under the misapprehension that since the Commissioner has drafted the rules it is open to him not to adhere to them. Sir, although he has framed the rules, it is the Government that has sanctioned them, and the Public Service Commissioner is bound by the rules passed by Government.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*) : Are not the other officers bound by those rules ?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Yes, but the imputation has been made that the Public Service Commissioner has not adhered to the rules.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : The Chief Secretary has stated that the Public Service Commissioner is bound by the rules. The question whether other officers are bound by them or not is not relevant. It need not be answered.

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Another point that has been raised in the discussion is about the examination. I am glad that some honourable members have answered the points raised by some others. Sir, the examinations held by the Public Service Commissioner are competitive examinations, and wherever competitive examinations are held, only the names or numbers of those who come out successful are published. Nowhere are particulars of those who fail are published. Take, for instance, the Civil Service Examination or the Public Service Examination held in Madras.

The results of those who have passed are alone published and not of those who have failed. It is neither advisable nor necessary to publish the results of the large number of candidates who have failed along with the results of those who have passed.

Regarding the selection of examiners, Government have given directions to the Public Service Commissioner that he must select them in consultation with the Director of Public Instruction. I must say that the question of communal representation in the case of examiners has not been considered. If communal representation is to be taken into consideration in such matters also I do not know where it will end.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): I want to know whether examiners are appointed in the same way as examiners are appointed for other examinations?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: The question is vague.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): May I know whether there is any case of complaint that the name of any examiner was known to any candidate?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I have already said that these questions are not relevant to the motion before the House.

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): No, Sir. No examiner's name was known to any candidate. If the examiners' names are known to candidates the examiners will have no peace of mind.

In such matters we must leave it to the responsible officer concerned to select the best men available in consultation with the head of the Education Department. I think these are all the points raised by the members.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): I wish to know whether any examination is to be held in the near future for the selection of English-knowing clerks.

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I do not think that any examination will be held in the near future for recruiting English-knowing clerks. An examination may be necessary for Malayalam-knowing clerks as also for typists.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): Has not the typists' examination been held already and the results published?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes, but the Commissioner thinks that sufficient candidates have not come forward and that it is not possible to fill the probable vacancies with those already selected.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): May I know the probable number of vacancies that may arise in the next few months in the cadre of Malayalam-knowing clerks and typists?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I have no definite information.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*): Will any examination on a large scale be conducted in the next few months?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It may not be necessary to hold an examination for English-knowing clerks but it is necessary to hold an examination for Malayalam-knowing clerks and typists and for recruitment to the civil service.

Mr. A. Thanu Pillai said that there will be very few candidates for the civil service. I may say that though the number of candidates may be few the remuneration to be paid to the examiners will be high and probably examiners from outside the State may also have to be engaged.

The grant was then put to vote and carried.

The demand was made.

PORTS.

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Sir, I move for a grant not exceeding Rs. 11,998 under ports. This is required for the maintenance of the dredger which Government have purchased for dredging the Alleppey Port. Honourable members will probably remember that a sum of Rs. 1.10 lakhs was sanctioned in 1111 for the purchase of a dredger. The dredger was ordered and it came out towards the end of 1111. About two-thirds of the amount was paid and the remaining one-third could not be paid because the dredger was not assembled and tested. This has since been done and the payment has been completed. I may also mention in this connection that the firm who supplied the dredger demanded payment immediately and Government paid them about Rs. 35,000. The sum asked for now is not for that purpose. This is intended to cover the establishment and maintenance charges during the current year.

My friend Mr. Damodaran Asan will surely put the question: "How is it that this expenditure was not foreseen when the budget was framed?" My answer is that when the dredger was purchased Government did not know what maintenance charges and staff would be required. This could be known only after the dredger was put in working order. It was therefore not possible to make provision in the regular budget and so Government have come to this House now with a supplementary demand.

It is proposed to appoint a dredging master on Rs. 70, a driver on Rs. 60, an engine driver on Rs. 30, an engine oilman on Rs. 15, a main engine driver on Rs. 30, a main engine oilman on Rs. 15 and four lascars on Rs. 15 each. The total expenditure for the establishment comes to Rs. 2,240. For the maintenance of the dredger including insurance a sum of Rs. 8,126 is required and for working expenses Rs. 1,632 is required. All told, the total expenditure comes to Rs. 11,998. I hope the House will pass this demand.

The demand was put to vote and carried.

The grant was made.